

Administration and concurred with by the Registrar General of India (RGI) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) are to be considered for amendment of legislation. As per above modalities, recommendation of the State Government of Manipur is a pre-requisite for considering the proposal further.

The criteria presently followed for specification of a community as a Scheduled Tribe are (i) indications of primitive traits, (ii) distinctive culture, (iii) geographical isolation, (iv) shyness of contact with the community at large, and (v) backwardness.

#### **National nutrition council**

2060. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to establish a National Nutrition Council to tackle malnutrition crisis in the country in the near future;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Government has recently approved the setting up of new National Nutrition Mission (NNM) to address the problem of malnutrition in the country at a total cost of ₹ 9046.17 crore for a period of three years *i.e.* 2017-18 to 2019-20.

The salient features of the Mission are ensuring convergence-NNM will ensure convergence with various programmes; incentivizing States/UTs for achieving goals; IT enabled Real Time Monitoring (ICT-RTM); Evaluation; weighing efficiency and making nutrition visible; Community mobilisation awareness advocacy; IEC, Jan Andolan - to educate the people on nutritional aspects, on-line Course on Nutrition for Children, Nutrition message from folk songs and songs on WASH, sending messages on nutrition and also creating ring-tones, Yoga for children at AWCs; strengthening human resource; measuring height and length of children below 6 years of age; roll out of NNM - 315 districts in 2017-18, 235 districts in 2018-19 and remaining districts in 2019-20. A total of about 10 crore beneficiaries are covered under the Mission.

There is a provision for setting up of a National Council on India's Nutritional Challenges under the Chairmanship of Vice-Chairman NITI Aayog. The Mission is to submit report to the Prime Minister every six months.